

or build new ones. While supporters of the motion may attempt to portray it as advancing "green" solutions to our energy challenges, the reality is that the language only required economic considerations to be taken into account and provided no framework or guidance regarding the environmental suitability of potential hydroelectric sites or requirements to account for environmental impact mitigation or wildlife protection.

I am strongly supportive of exploring beneficial ways to increase the role that hydroelectricity plays in our energy mix, and look forward to working with my colleagues on pursuing environmentally responsible hydroelectric options such as installing low-head hydroelectric turbines in existing small dams. It is extremely important that we explore such alternatives, but we must do so in a way that is thoughtful, measured, and responsible. The language in the motion to recommit could have opened the door to reckless, counterproductive hydroelectric projects and so I chose to vote against it.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 23RD STREET ASSOCIATION AND ITS 2007 DISTINGUISHED CITIZEN, MR. JOSEPH ROBERTO OF NORTH FORK BANK

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 19, 2007

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the 23rd Street Association, Inc., of New York City, its President, Sharon L. Ullman, and its honoree Joseph Roberto on the occasion of its annual Distinguished Citizen Award Luncheon. This year, the Association is bestowing its Distinguished Citizen Award upon Mr. Joseph Roberto, Divisional Senior Vice President of North Fork Bank, for his outstanding service to the community.

The 23rd Street Association was formed in 1929 by 22 local business leaders to improve environmental conditions and promote economic development in Manhattan. Since that time, the 23rd Street Association and its civic-minded members have devoted themselves to maintaining and improving the quality of life for both businesses and residents of the vital and thriving area of Lower Manhattan between 18th and 28th Streets. Today, the Association plays an active role in the development and growth of the 23rd Street area, including the Gramercy Park and Flatiron neighborhoods and the Stuyvesant Town and Peter Cooper Village middle-income housing developments.

The Association also addresses a broad range of citizen complaints and concerns by working closely with local community boards as well as city, state and federal government agencies. Whether forming a partnership with the New York City Department of Transportation to ameliorate traffic congestion in Lower Manhattan or purchasing and planting hundreds of trees in conjunction with the City Parks Department, the Association's commitment to improving the neighborhoods and communities it serves has been truly remarkable. In recent years, the 23rd Street Association worked to block a plant to substitute a nearby women's shelter with a facility for high-

risk men, a proposal forcefully fought by many local businesses and residents.

This year, the 23rd Street Association is honoring Mr. Joseph Roberto of North Fork Bank with its Distinguished Citizen Award. A veteran of New York's business community, Joseph Roberto began his career by working in his family business, a chain of retail stores known as Pzaz, from 1979 through 1998. In 1998, Mr. Roberto joined North Fork Bank, where he currently serves as the Divisional Senior Vice President for Manhattan. Overseeing the bank's 45 Manhattan locations, Mr. Roberto has still found time and boundless energy to devote to his community and to countless worthy causes ranging from the American Cancer Society to United Cerebral Palsy to the Special Olympics.

The 23rd Street Association's president, Sharon L. Ullman, has compiled an exceptional record of service to the community. She spearheaded the establishment of the new Flatiron/23rd Street Partnership Business Improvement District, working tirelessly for 5 years planning the project, raising the funding needed to bring it to fruition, and inspiring the will and energy to make it such an outstanding success for local businesses and residents alike. She has also dedicated herself to the community by serving as the Warden of Madison Square Park and as a longtime board member of worthwhile organizations like the Associated Blind, Inc. Ms. Ullman was also named one of the top 100 New Yorkers by New York Resident magazine.

Madam Speaker, I request that my colleagues join me in paying tribute to the 23rd Street Association, its president, Sharon L. Ullman, and its honoree, Joseph Roberto, for their outstanding service and dedication to the civic life of our nation's greatest metropolis.

THE GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE SECURITY OVERSIGHT ACT

HON. EDWARD J. MARKEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 19, 2007

Mr. MARKEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Global Climate Change Security Oversight Act.

The nexus between global warming and the national security of the United States is a crucial, yet long-ignored, issue. The adverse consequences of rising global temperatures present not only a potential environmental catastrophe but a national security emergency.

The security-related consequences of global warming will range from hampering U.S. military operations to worsening the scarcity of essential resources in already unstable regions—which can lead to the failed states that are a central breeding ground for terrorism. But because the U.S. intelligence community has never analyzed the potential for global warming to harm our national security, we lack a thorough understanding of what these threats are. This means that the Department of Defense and other security agencies cannot comprehensively plan for the security consequences of global warming the way that they plan for countless other serious contingencies.

Today, I am introducing the "Global Climate Change Security Oversight Act." This bill is

cosponsored by the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. BARTLETT) the gentleman from Connecticut, Mr. LARSON, the gentlelady from California, Ms. ESHOO, the gentlelady from California, Ms. SOLIS, the gentlelady from New York, Mr. HALL, the gentleman from Washington, Mr. McDERMOTT, and the gentleman from Massachusetts, Mr. OLVER. This legislation will jump-start U.S. defense planning for the security consequences of global warming by authorizing a National Intelligence Estimate (NIE) to assess the implications of global warming to United States security and military operations. Our bill, the House companion to legislation already introduced by Senator DURBIN and Senator HAGEL, will provide a crucial planning and risk-assessment tool as the Congress seeks innovative solutions to global warming. Developed to assess the most serious threats to the United States, NIEs are the most authoritative intelligence judgments on national security issues. This legislation will also fund research by the Defense Department into the consequences for U.S. military operations posed by global warming.

It seems clear that our geopolitical and national security posture will only grow worse if we do not act forcefully to curb our dangerous dependence on imported oil and reduce our emissions of global warming pollution. At the beginning of February, the world's top scientists, as part of the United Nations' Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), provided a scientific smoking gun that human activities were unequivocally responsible for global warming. Two weeks ago, their second report told us what happens when the climatic bullet hits. The developing world will bear the brunt of the collateral damage from our historic global warming emissions, but the United States will experience its own self-inflicted wounds, including threats to our national security and military readiness.

The United States must act now to understand the security implications of global warming. The Global Climate Change Security Oversight Act will allow us to do so.

CONGRATULATIONS TO MR. WILLIE BEASLEY ON THE OCCASION OF HIS 94TH BIRTHDAY ON APRIL 28TH, 2007

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 19, 2007

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, It is with great pleasure that I rise to congratulate Mr. Willie Beasley on the occasion of his 94th birthday which will take place on April 28, 2007. Madam Speaker, to live a long life is indeed desirable and many of us would find it most desirable. However, to live a long, healthy wholesome and productive life is awesome. Such has been the blessed fate of Mr. Willie Beasley who has been a great husband, wonderful father, tremendous churchman and a civic leader who has understood what it should mean to live in a free and democratic society. For many years, Mr. Beasley was an outstanding leader at the Carey Centenary AME Church, he and his family were anchored in the community and to this day his children Ward and Carol continue in his and the family's tradition.